

TODAY'S MASS

8th October 2023

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Est 4: 17

**Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven
and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.**

THE COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the abundance of your kindness
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,
pour out your mercy upon us
to pardon what conscience dreads
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

5:1-7

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend had a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.
In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.
He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.
What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?
I expected it to yield grapes.
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you
what I am going to do to my vineyard:
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.
I will command the clouds
to rain no rain on it.
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,
and the men of Judah
that chosen plant.
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 79:9.12-16.19-20. R. Is 5:7

R) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R)**

Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R)**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R)**

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians 4:6-9

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need,
pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and
that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can
understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ
Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is
true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure,
everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be
thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things
that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have
heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Cf. Jn 15:16

**I chose you from the world
to go out and bear fruit,
fruit that will last,
says the Lord.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people,
'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who
planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and
built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad.
When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants
to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants,
thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent
some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt
with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them.
'They will respect my son' he said. But when the tenants saw
the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come on, let
us kill him and take over his inheritance.' So they seized him
and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when
the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those
tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a
wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will
deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said
to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders
that became the keystone.
This was the Lord's doing
and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you
and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful
with the sacrificial offerings,
that, through these acts of devotedness,
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Lam 3: 25

**The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant us, almighty God,
that we may be refreshed and nourished
by the Sacrament which we have received,
so as to be transformed into what we consume.
Through Christ our Lord.

